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NORTH LONSDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1962.



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NORTH LONSDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1962.

Divisional Health Offices,
Brogden Street,
Ulverston.

August, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the
North Lonsdale Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres)	127,448
Population - Census, 1961	16,584
Registrar General's Estimate of home population, mid 1962	16,030
Number of inhabited houses	5,758
Rateable Value	£150,273
Amount produced by a Penny Rate	£586.16.10.

The district is entirely rural in character, the northern portion being typical lakeland country with lakes and fells merging into the more southern portion which extends to the coast and forms part of the northern shores of Morecambe Bay. Two lakes, Coniston and Esthwaite, as well as two-thirds of the shores of Lake Windermere are wholly contained in the District.

The principal industry is agriculture, with the hotel and catering industry playing a prominent part during the summer season.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The principal vital statistics for 1962 and for the preceding five years are given on page two.

Of the 200 births registered 101 were males of which 5 were illegitimate and 99 were females of which 4 were illegitimate.

Approximately 81.8% of the deaths were in persons of 65 years of age and over and the main causes of death were:- Heart disease 105, Vascular Lesions of nervous system 52 and Malignant growths 31. Of the 105 deaths from heart disease 63 were due to Coronary artery disease.

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 popul- ation	Number regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1962	200	12.5	233	14.5	4	19.6	Nil	Nil	2	10.0	1	5.0
1961	201	12.6	241	15.1	7	33.7	Nil	Nil	2	10.0	2	10.0
1960	236	14.9	231	14.5	5	20.7	Nil	Nil	3	12.7	2	8.5
1959	182	11.4	230	14.4	4	21.5	Nil	Nil	4	22	3	16.5
1958	207	12.9	245	15.3	4	19	1	4.74	4	19.3	1	4.8
1957	206	12.8	207	12.9	5	24	Nil	Nil	1	5	1	5
Average 5 years 1957-61	-	12.9	-	14.4	-	23.8	-	0.95	-	13.8	-	9.0

Adjusted live birth rate 1962 (comparability factor 1.13) = 14.1 per 1,000
Adjusted death rate 1962 (comparability factor 0.89) = 12.9 per 1,000

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales and this District.

The rates quoted are for 1,000 population in all cases.

Year	<u>England and Wales</u>		<u>North Lonsdale Rural District</u>	
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1962	18.0	11.9	14.1	12.9
1961	17.4	12	14.3	13.5
1960	17.1	11.5	16.8	12.9
1959	16.5	11.6	12.9	12.8
1958	16.4	11.7	14.6	13.6

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :-

J.L. WILD. M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held :-

Medical Officer of Health -
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District
Grange-over-Sands Urban District
Ulverston Urban District

Divisional Medical Officer -
Health Division No. 1 -
Lancashire County Council.

Senior Public Health Inspector:-

H.C. CLAYDON, Certificate Royal Sanitary
Institute. Certificate of Royal
Sanitary Institute - Meat and
Other Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector:-

D.M. PICKLES, Certificate - Royal Sanitary
Institute. Certificate Royal
Society of Health - Meat and
Other Foods.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY

The provision and maintenance of public water supplies for the whole of the District is now the responsibility of the Furness Water Board, with the exception of a small part of the parish of Cartmel Fell, for which the Lakes and Lune Water Board is responsible.

No additions were made to the sources of supply during the year and only slight extensions were made to the areas supplied.

Supplies were generally adequate in quantity throughout the year with the exception of the Allithwaite district where the pressure appears to be insufficient to meet peak demands.

The quality varies considerably according to the source of supply and the time of year. The low Furness district, supplied from the Pennington treatment works, and the Cartmel Valley district, supplied from the Newton treatment works are consistently good bacteriologically, although slight discolouration occurs in the latter occasionally. The Boretsee Tarn supply also, although untreated, is generally of good quality. The remainder of the district is supplied from numerous small sources, the majority of which are untreated. They are usually of reasonably good quality during the winter months but during the summer months the level of animal pollution reaches disquieting proportions. Even those which are chlorinated suffer from the same defect, it having proved impossible to maintain the correct dose of chlorine when the level of pollution of the raw water varies from day to day.

32 samples of water from the untreated supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination with only 13 satisfactory results.

28 samples of treated water were examined bacteriologically with only 12 satisfactory results.

It is estimated that there are some 1,280 houses using private supplies. 36 samples were examined from these supplies of which 12 were satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Engineer of the Furness Water Board for much of the detailed information given in the table on page 5.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Details of the methods of sewage disposal have been kindly supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor and are given on pages 6 and 7. The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes at Ayside and Outgate were completed, the sewage disposal scheme at Bouth was completed, and the sewer extension scheme begun.

22 new and 44 existing houses were connected to the sewerage system and 22 new and 30 existing houses to septic tanks. 48 privies were converted to fresh water closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A fortnightly collection of refuse is maintained from premises where dustbins are provided and a five or six weekly collection is made from ashpits and privy middens, (except the majority of farms). Disposal is to nine semi-controlled tips in various parts of the district.

Supplies to houses:

NORTH LONSDALE RURAL DISTRICT

Parish	No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1962		Supply to all houses at end of year					
			From public mains				From private supplies e.g. wells, springs etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe			
	Existing houses	New houses	No. of dwelling houses	Est. No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Est. No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Est. No. of population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Aldingham	-	6	303	1005	None in any Parish	-	2	13
Allithwaite Lr.	1	4	504	1384		-	41	160
Allithwaite Uppr.	1	13	241	797		-	9	33
Angerton	-	-	5	21	-	-	-	-
Blawith	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	118
Broughton East	-	-	28	106	-	-	25	97
Broughton West	2	-	273	837	-	-	37	131
Cartmel Fell	-	-	23	69	-	-	99	268
Claife	-	-	146	386	-	-	30	115
Colton	3	1	112	412	-	-	218	660
Coniston	-	8	306	947	-	-	42	162
Dunnerdale	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	180
Egton with Newland	6	3	145	379	-	-	154	520
Haverthwaite	-	-	221	645	-	-	51	194
Holker Lower	-	-	440	1387	-	-	46	183
Kirkby	1	1	394	1167	-	-	28	105
Hawkshead	2	1	221	606	-	-	10	48
Lowick	-	-	35	114	-	-	42	150
Mansriggs	-	-	1	5	-	-	9	36
Osnotherley	-	-	45	112	-	-	47	158
Pennington	-	3	404	1263	-	-	8	33
Satterthwaite	-	-	-	-	-	-	106	312
Skelwith	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	260
Staveley	1	8	111	309	-	-	26	86
Subberthwaite	-	-	9	30	-	-	15	47
Torver	-	-	24	84	-	-	37	111
Urswick	-	6	390	1172	-	-	5	19

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

<u>Township</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Method of Disposal</u>
Aldingham	Leece	Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters.
	Gleaston	Sewage tank.
	Scales	Two Sewage tanks with overflow to land.
	Baycliffe	Sewage tanks with outfall to sea.
	Newbiggin	Sewage tank with overflow to stream.
Allithwaite Lower	Allithwaite	Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters, outfall to sea.
	Cartmel	Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters, outfall to River Eca.
Allithwaite Upper	Lindale	Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters, outfall to River Winster.
	Newton	Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters, outfall to stream.
Broughton East	Field Broughton	Sewage tank.
Broughton West	Broughton-in-Furness	Sewage tank with overflow to tidal water of River Duddon.
	Foxfield	Tidal waters of River Duddon.
Claife	Near Sawrey	Sewage tanks.
	Far Sawrey	Two sewage tanks with overflow to stream.
	Colthouse	Sewage tank with overflow to stream.
Colton	Bouth	Sewage Disposal Works with overflow to stream.
	Oxenpark	Sewage tank with overflow to land.
Coniston	Coniston	Five large sewage tanks with overflow to stream.
Egton	Greenodd	Tidal waters of Morecambe Bay.
	Pennybridge	Sewage tank. Sewage disposal works, with outfall to river.
Haverthwaite	Haverthwaite	Sewage tank with overflow to river.
	Backbarrow	Sewage tank with overflow to river. Sewage disposal works at Finsthwaite Lane.
Hawkshead	Hawkshead	Sewage tank with outfall to stream.
		Sewage tank with outfall to land.

Holker Lower	Cark Ravenstown Flookburgh	Sewage tank with outfall to sea Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters Pumping plant discharging sewage to enlarged works at Ravenstown, outfall to stream
Kirkby Ireleth	Sandside Chapples Scutergate Marshside	Sewage tank with outfall to tidal water of River Duddon Sewage tank with outfall to stream Sewage tank with outfall to sea Sewage tank with outfall to tidal waters
Lowick	Lowick Green	Sewage tank with outfall to River Crake
Osmotherley	Bechive Three Bridges	Tank with outfall to stream Sewage tank with outfall to stream
Pennington	Swarthmoor Trinkeld Loppergarth Cross-a-moor	Outfall works of Ulverston Urban District Council Outfall works of Ulverston Urban District Council Sewage disposal works with tanks and filters, outfall to stream Outfall works to Ulverston Urban District Council
Satterthwaite	Satterthwaite	Private sewer to tank with outfall to stream
Torver	Torver	Sewage tank with outfall to stream
Urswick	Gt. Urswick Little Urswick Stainton Bardsea	Sewage tanks with outfall to tarn Sewage tanks with outfall to tarn Sewage tanks with outfall to land Sewage tanks with outfall to sea.

HOUSING.

During the year 1 new house was erected by the Council and 54 by private builders.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

1. (a) Total No. of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 497
- (b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 701
- (c) No. of dwelling houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit. 193
2. Total No. of dwelling houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit 101 approx.

2. Houses Demolished

	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
In Clearance Areas: Houses unfit for human habitation	6	Nil	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas: As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil

3. Unfit Houses Closed

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Acts, 1957	1	5	1
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied:

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(1) After informal action by local authority	32	-
(2) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	20	Nil
(b) Sections 9 & 16, Housing Act, 1957	1	Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):

Nil

6. Houses in Clearance Areas Purchased by Agreement

Nil

7. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Acts, 1958 - Improvement Grants etc.

No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of -

Action taken during the year:-

(a)	Submitted by private individuals to	
	Local Authority	
(b)	Approved by Local Authority	
(c)	Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry ...	
(d)	Finally approved by Ministry	
(e)	Work completed	
(f)	Additional separate dwellings included in (c) above	

Private Bodies or individuals	Local Authority
51	-
51	-
Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil
51	Nil
6	Nil

8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959-Standard Grants:

No. of dwellings or other buildings affected

Action during the year:

(a)	Applications submitted to local authority	24
(b)	Applications approved by local authority	24
(c)	Work completed	14

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

1. <u>Premises</u>		<u>Number of:</u>		
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	3	Nil	Nil
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	87	49	4	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2. <u>Cases in which defects were found</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u>	
<u>Particulars</u>			<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of cleanliness (S1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S7)				
(a) Insufficient	2	2	Nil	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	9	Nil	7
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table shows the number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases which occurred in the North Lonsdale Rural District during the five year 1957-1961 compared with the number in 1962.

Disease						1962		
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	Number of Cases	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	3	13	11	6	4	4	0	0
Measles	20	398	85	112	130	39	0	0
Whooping cough	28	43	0	10	41	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infection	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	3	5	0	5	3	0	2
Erysipelas	1	1	2	1	2	0	0	0
Dysentery	2	4	0	25	1	0	0	0
Polio-myelitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food poisoning	9	22	2	1	27	0	0	0
TOTALS	64	484	105	156	210	46	0	2

It will be observed that the incidence of infectious disease was the lowest for a number of years.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis and mortality during 1962.

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25-	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
35-	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
45-	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65-	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
75 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	0
	6		0		3		0	

The table below shows the numbers of new cases and deaths from tuberculosis in North Lonsdale Rural District residents during the past 12 years.

Years	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1951	12	5	2	3	2	1	0	1
1952	8	4	2	3	1	0	1	0
1953	6	3	2	1	3	1	1	0
1954	8	5	0	1	2	1	1	0
1955	1	5	1	0	2	0	0	0
1956	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
1957	2	5	0	0	2	1	0	0
1958	3	5	1	0	2	1	0	0
1959	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
1960	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0
1961	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1962	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	0

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details regarding the inspection of food, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared are given in the Public Health Inspectors Report.

Milk sampling continued, 42 samples being submitted for biological examination. All were free from Tubercle bacilli but 5 were found to contain Brucella organisms.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1949 & 1951

It was not found necessary to take any action under these Acts during the year.

In conclusion it is my pleasure to thank the Members of the Health Committee and the Officers of the North Lonsdale Rural District Council, particularly the Public Health Inspectors for their unfailing courtesy and help.

The report of the Senior Public Health Inspector is appended.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J.L. WILD.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1962

I beg to submit the report for the year 1962 on the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department.

Summary of Inspections made during the year.

Public Health Acts, 1936 - 1961	520
Caravan Sites	195
Housing Acts, 1957	384
Rent Act, 1957	9
Housing Applications	129
Catering Establishments	87
Food Preparing Premises (including shrimp pickers dwellings)	248
General Food Premises	50
Ice Cream Premises	16
Hawkers	16
Milk & Dairies	46
Slaughterhouses	394
Factories Act, 1937 - 1959.	16
Clean Air Act, 1956	2
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	3
Waste Foods Order	7
Shops Act, 1950	5
Water Supplies	173
Verminous Premises	6
Infectious Diseases	2
Schools	1
Rodent Control (including visits by Rodent Operator).	2633
Miscellaneous	199

Total Number of Inspections 5141

General Information.

No. of licensed premises	68
No. of unlicensed hotels and guest houses	19) See
No. of cafes and snack bars	25) Note 1
No. of hostels	8
No. of works and school canteens	18
No. of Greengrocers shops	2
No. of Bakers and/or Confectioners	10
No. of General Food shops	68
No. of shops selling mainly ice cream and minerals	13
No. of Registered Ice Cream Premises (Manufacture)	1
No. of Registered Ice Cream Premises (Retail)	88
No. of Registered Hawkers	49
No. of Registered Hawkers premises	30
No. of Domestic premises registered for Shrimp Picking	191
No. of Licensed Slaughterhouses	3
No. of Licensed Slaughtermen	42
No. of Premises registered under Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	9
No. of Caravan Sites Licensed under Caravan Sites and Control of Development Acts, 1960	52
No. of Caravans on Licensed Sites	1073
No. of Factory premises registered (Mechanical and non-mechanical)	87
No. of Butchers shops	8

Note. 1. These figures do not include the many domestic premises and farmhouses which during the summer months do occasional catering.

HOUSING

In the latter half of the year the building of Council houses was commenced at Lindale, Cark and Swarthmoor. The schemes at Lindale and Cark were primarily to accommodate families displaced from Clearance Order property in the respective villages, whilst the project at Swarthmoor was mainly for general need purposes. Three cottages at Cartmel were demolished, these comprising a Clearance Area in respect of which a Clearance Order was confirmed in 1961,

Three new Clearance Orders were submitted to the Minister for confirmation during the year. These Orders included groups of seven dwellings at Croft Terrace, Gleaston, six at Post Office Row, Little Urswick and five at Skeldon Moor, Little Urswick. Confirmation of these Orders had not been received before the end of the year.

Fourteen dwellings were dealt with as individual unfit premises in accordance with Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, but of the thirteen families occupying them it was only possible to re-house one. There did seem to be a reasonable prospect that most of the families would be re-housed in the next twelve months however, as building projects were due to be commenced at Urswick, and Haverthwaite at an early date.

It was not possible to re-house the 9 families still occupying dwellings at Coniston and Kirkby which are subject to Clearance Orders confirmed in 1937.

Turning to the general needs for the building of Council houses in the area, the largest waiting list is for houses at Swarthmoor and it would seem that the demand there will outstrip the supply for many years to come. The reason is of course that Swarthmoor is close to Ulverston and has good transport facilities to Barrow. If more houses were available at Swarthmoor I am of the opinion that several of the tenants now living in Council houses in other parts of the area would welcome a transfer, leaving vacancies which could quite easily be filled.

Although applications for Discretionary and Standard Grant schemes from owner occupiers still greatly outnumber those from tenanted dwellings, the schemes are doing much to improve housing conditions generally. During 1962, 51 Discretionary and 24 Standard Grants were approved and in several instances the Grants have been instrumental in saving 'border-line' dwellings when the threat of demolition loomed large. Due to the fact that it is impossible to forecast whether or not Grants will be applied for in respect of such dwellings, it is very difficult to state precisely on paper just how many dwellings will require to be demolished in the foreseeable

future. Much seems to depend upon the financial resources of the owners - i.e. whether or not they are in a position to find their own shares of the costs involved.

The Government has thus far resisted pressure from idealist sources to make compulsory the provision of modern amenities such as a bathroom and hot water supply, and tends to rely solely on publicity campaigns for Improvement Grants. This resistance almost certainly stems from the knowledge that the powers of compulsion, if used to the full, would prove too expensive for local authorities to use. It seems to me that both points of view have substance and might be reconciled if local authorities were allowed to use the powers with discrimination and in their own time.

WATER SUPPLIES

The year 1962 was the third successive year of which it can be said that no shortage of the public water supply occurred due to drought. The conditions which prevailed in the summer of 1959 will surely recur however, and due to the fact that the general demand for water is continually rising by reason of building development, the hardships experienced in a drought similar to the one in 1959 will be proportionately

greater. I have in mind particularly the northern parts of the district where the resources of the very small undertakings such as at Wray and Sawrey and even the larger ones at Hawkshead and Coniston will be severely strained. It is heartening to learn however that the Furness Water Board is now apparently committed to a comprehensive scheme to supply the northern parishes from one single new source at Levers Water. This surely must be the long term policy to banish for ever the difficulties of providing a wholesome and sufficient water supply to the aforementioned areas.

Apart from local difficulties experienced in Allithwaite it would seem that the supplies serving the southern parishes are capable of withstanding a fairly lengthy drought, with the exception perhaps of the one serving Egton area. In the latter instance the gathering ground supports two main feed-runners, one of which is polluted with animal debris for much of the year, necessitating heavy chlorination. I can recall that not so many years ago this particular feed-runner was needed only during extreme drought periods, but the building developments in the district and the extent of modernization of properties has brought about such an increased demand for water that all the available water from the gathering ground must now be used.

In commenting upon the bacteriological quality of the public water supplies I can only repeat what has been said many times before, namely that the only safe water supply in such an area as this, where the gathering grounds are so vulnerable to pollution, is a chlorinated one, and that the difficulties of such satisfactory treatment on a small scale seem to be insuperable. The only answer is the replacement of all small public supplies by the provision of a very few comprehensive schemes.

Turning to the statistical detail of bacteriological sampling the figures compare rather similarly to those reported for the previous year. The latter are quoted in brackets:-

	<u>No. of samples taken.</u>	<u>No. satisfactory.</u>	<u>No. unsatisfactory.</u>
(a) Raw Water	32(31)	13(11)	19(20)
(b) Chlorinated Water	28(26)	12(14)	16(12)

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The year saw the completion of the first new sewerage system to be constructed in the post-war period and although the scheme (at Ayside) was a comparatively small one, it filled a need which has existed for many years. The extension of the sewerage system at Beuth, together with new disposal works, constitutes a substantial improvement and will facilitate the provision of water carriage sanitation throughout most of the village.

Use was made of the powers given to local authorities in the Public Health Act to require the provision of water closets to replace other unsatisfactory forms of sanitation in cases where adequate sewerage and water supply are available. 23 notices were served during the year, 9 being complied with before the 31st December. The fact that a period of six months is allowed for the work to be carried out accounts for the apparent degree of non-compliance, and a proper picture will be reflected in the carry-over to 1963.

The Council's cesspool emptier continued to serve a public need and many householders formerly faced with the difficulty of finding someone to carry out the unsavoury task of emptying a septic tank were grateful for the service.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD & FOOD PREMISES

Approximately the same amount of time as in the previous year was devoted to this work, the numbers of visits comparing very similarly. In regard to foodshops and catering establishments the standard to be followed are set out in the Food Hygiene Regulations and in no case was any infringement discovered such as to warrant other than informal action. Many of the hotel kitchens, although complying with the regulations are not of modern construction, but the work of improving them proceeds slowly.

In recent years there has been a marked increase in the consumption of frozen foods and most of the village stores now deal in these commodities to a greater or less extent.

The modern housewife differs from her mother in that she requires prepared or partly prepared foods which demand little or no effort to serve, and yet are attractive or appetising. Freezing is the only method of preserving food which has all these attributes and manufacturers of frozen foods have the advantage in that they can provide fresh-tasting food, devoid of waste and prepared in a convenient form. No other method of preservation can provide a wide range of complete meals which can be served at any time ~~virtually~~ in their original condition. Whether or not one agrees with this trend, it is a most satisfactory one from the public health point of view, as any break-down of the continuous freezing process from the time of production right up to the moment of delivery to the consumer renders the food virtually unsaleable. This fact is fully appreciated by the firms concerned and they make every effort to educate their customers accordingly. Competition between the manufacturers ensures that the products are sold in excellent condition, and to achieve this, the product must in its raw state be perfectly fresh.

Insofar as frozen food is concerned the inspection of premises is relatively simple. It being only necessary to see that the freezing cabinet is kept clean and in working order and not overloaded.

Meat Inspection.

The figures in the table below indicate that the meat consuming habits of the public vary only slightly from year to year, the numbers of cattle and sheep slaughtered corresponding closely to those for the previous year. The standard of meat produced at the three private slaughterhouses is high, as evidenced by the fact that the number of whole carcasses condemned was virtually negligible. For the third successive year no tuberculous animals have been seen at the slaughterhouses and it would seem that the battle against bovine tuberculosis has been won.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	544	-	2689	-
Number Inspected	544	-	2689	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	3	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	65	-	206	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis ...	11.95%	-	7.7%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-

CARAVANS & CAMPING

During the year a further 17 caravan sites were licensed, bring the total number to 52, siting 1073 caravans. The following table shows the sizes of licensed sites at present being used or in the course of contruction:-

No. of sites containing	1 caravan	17
" " " "	2 - 5 caravans	8
" " " "	5 - 10 caravans	3
" " " "	10 - 20 caravans	8
" " " "	20 - 40 caravans	7
" " " "	40 - 60 caravans	3
" " " "	60 - 100 caravans	3
" " " "	100 - 125 caravans	3

In only one case was a formal objection made against the conditions imposed on the licence, but due to the illness of the objector, the hearing at the Magistrates Court had not taken place by the end of the year. One prosecution for failure to comply with site licence conditions resulted in a conviction.

In the summer months frequent inspections of all the caravan sites were made and very little cause for complaint was found. On a few of the larger sites amenities in excess of those stipulated on the licence were provided - e.g. heated showers and drying rooms.

The poor weather experienced during the summer restructed tented camping to very reasonable proportions and in no case was any site overcrowded. There is however a need to cope with the demand which will inevitably arise if the weather during the peak holiday periods should be favourable. The need is occasioned particularly in the Hawkshead and Coniston area and I think that the time is not far distant when either the Council or the Lake District Planning Board will have to think seriously of providing and equipping one or two sites. It is my opinion that some of the farmers or other landowners in the area who now refuse to accept campers because of the Bye-law obligations involved, would for a consideration allow some authority to provide the essential facilities. The gross profit

accruing to the authority would undoubtedly be absorbed by administrative costs, but the district generally would benefit from the control which would be imposed.

One particular trouble spot concerns Blawith Common, bordering the Greenodd - Coniston road on the west side of the lake. Due to its natural attractions this area is much frequented by campers in the months of July & August, despite the complete absence of facilities. Sooner or later consideration must be given either to some measure of control or to complete prohibition of camping on this site, as in my opinion the present usage of the common is contrary to Public Health interests.

RODENT AND VERMIN CONTROL.

This essential service continued satisfactorily throughout the year. The Council's Rodent Operator was kept fully occupied in dealing with complaints involving residential property and business premises and carrying out routine treatments at the Council's refuse tips and sewage plants. The number of contracts in force for rodent control, mainly agricultural holdings, rose to 25, this being an increase of 8 during the year. The total value of these contracts was £170:17:0. In almost all cases, Warfarin was the destructive agent used for both rats and mice.

In addition to Rodent Control work, several cases of insect infestations were dealt with.

	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>		<u>Agricultural</u>
	Dwelling houses	All other	
No. of properties in district	4,890	1,610	649
No. of properties inspected	1,593	926	114
Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections) ...	2,071	1,037	189
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats - major	74	32	5
minor	298	79	64
Mice - major	4	-	-
minor	102	-	-
No. of infested properties	478	111	69
Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments) ..	564	137	69
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	Nil	Nil	Nil

In concluding my Report, I would take this opportunity of expressing appreciation to Mr. D.M. Pickles, Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. F.W. Blezard, General Clerk and Mr. J. Berry, Rodent Operator, for their excellent co-operation shown during the year.

H.C. CLAYDON.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

